

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

SUSAN M. DEJONG,

Petitioner,

V.

STATE OF NEBRASKA,

Respondent.

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4:16CV3020

**MEMORANDUM
AND ORDER**

This matter is before the court on Petitioner's Request for Appointment of Counsel. (Filing No. [2](#).) "[T]here is neither a constitutional nor statutory right to counsel in habeas proceedings; instead, [appointment] is committed to the discretion of the trial court." [McCall v. Benson, 114 F.3d 754, 756 \(8th Cir. 1997\)](#). As a general rule, counsel will not be appointed unless the case is unusually complex or the petitioner's ability to investigate and articulate the claims is unusually impaired or an evidentiary hearing is required. *See, e.g., Morris v. Dormire, 217 F.3d 556, 558-59 (8th Cir. 2000), cert. denied, 531 U.S. 984 (2000); Hoggard v. Purkett, 29 F.3d 469, 471 (8th Cir. 1994).* *See also* Rule 8(c) of the *Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases in the United States District Courts* (requiring appointment of counsel if an evidentiary hearing is warranted). The court has carefully reviewed the record and finds there is no need for the appointment of counsel at this time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that: Petitioner's Request for Appointment of Counsel (Filing No. [2](#)) is denied without prejudice to reassertion.

DATED this 25th day of May, 2016.

BY THE COURT:

Richard G. Kopf

Senior United States District Judge